

Elgin Daily Courier – Elgin Illinois – Monday July 30, 1951

Two Killed in Traffic Accidents

Mrs. Anna Orland, Aurora; R. Benhart, Roselle, Victims

A Roselle youth and an Aurora woman are dead as a result of weekend traffic accidents in the Elgin area. Many other injury accidents were reported in the heavy traffic brought about by ideal weather conditions. Victims of the fatal accidents were Richard Benhart, 20, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Benhart, of Roselle, route 1, who died in Elmhurst Hospital after a head on collision on US route 20 near Addison early Sunday, and Mrs. Anna Orland, 66, of 832 5th Ave., Aurora, who died in Copley Hospital, Aurora from injuries suffered late Saturday afternoon in a collision in Aurora.

Award Winner

Benhart, a member of the 4-H club and winner of a grand champion award in dairy cattle judging at Arlington Heights a year ago, was driving his fiancée, Miss Patricia Mangels, of Roselle, to her home early Sunday morning when their car was struck head on by a machine driven by Willie J. McElroy Sr., 29, of 3524 Giles St., Chicago. McElroy told DuPage County deputy sheriffs that he swerved his car to the left side of the highway to avoid hitting a pedestrian who ran in front of him west of Addison. His car and Benharts machine crashed head on. Benhart died shortly after arrival at the hospital and Miss Mangels suffered cuts and bruises about the head and face. McElroy, his wife Tillie; their two children, Willie Jr., 3, and Homer, 2, and Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Davis, of 2803 Prairie Ave., escaped with minor injuries. Richard was born in Itasca Sept. 14, 1931, but the family had resided in Roselle since he was three. Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Leonard and Robert Benhart of Roselle; a sister, Mrs. Luella Hanson of Keeneyville; and his grandparents, Henry Benhart of Elgin and Mrs. Fred Pfingsten of Roselle. Funeral services will be held at 2 pm Wednesday from Trinity Lutheran Church in Roselle. The Rev. W.H. Mehlberg, pastor, will officiate and burial will be in Lake Street Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call at Richert & Son Funeral Home in Roselle.